

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. An article of manufacture for preparing a frozen beverage comprising:
  - a) first frozen pellets comprising a milk fluid, a sweetener, a flavoring, and a stabilizer mix, wherein said milk fluid is about 25% to about 78% by weight of said first frozen pellets; and
  - b) second frozen pellets comprising a milk fluid, a sweetener, and a stabilizer mix, wherein said milk fluid is about 60% to about 85% by weight of said second frozen pellets.
2. The article of claim 1, wherein said first frozen pellets further comprise a cream fluid.
3. The article of claim 2, wherein the combined amount of said cream fluid and said milk fluid is from about 62% to about 90% by weight of said first frozen pellets.
4. The article of claim 3, wherein the combined amount of said cream fluid and said milk fluid is from about 80% to about 87% by weight of said first frozen pellets.
5. The article of claim 1, wherein said first frozen pellets and said second frozen pellets are, independently, pellets of relatively uniform shape and size.
6. The article of claim 5, wherein said first and second frozen pellet shapes are independently selected from the group consisting of spheres, ovals, and cubes.
7. The article of claim 1, further comprising a container.
8. The article of claim 1, further comprising an insulated carrier for said container.
9. The article of claim 5, wherein said pellets have a diameter of from about 1 to about 20 mm.
10. The article of claim 1, wherein said first frozen pellets are present in an amount of about 60% to about 70% by weight of the amount of said second frozen pellets.

31  
32 11. The article of claim 1, further comprising a container for mixing said first and second  
33 frozen pellets.

34  
35 12. The article of claim 11, wherein said container comprises a cover.

36  
37 13. The article of claim 12, further comprising a straw.

38  
39 14. The article of claim 1, wherein said milk fluid of said first or second frozen pellets is  
40 whole milk.

41  
42 15. The article of claim 1, wherein said sweetener of said first or second frozen pellets  
43 comprises a fructo-oligosaccharide.

44  
45 16. The article of claim 1, wherein said stabilizer mix of said first or second frozen pellets  
46 comprises a gum.

47  
48 17. The article of claim 2, wherein said cream fluid is heavy cream.

49  
50 18. The article of claim 1, wherein said first frozen pellets comprise:  
51 a) said sweetener at about 10% to about 25% by weight; and  
52 b) said stabilizer mix at about 0.15% to about 2% by weight.

53  
54 19. The article of claim 1, wherein said second frozen pellets comprise:  
55 a) said sweetener at about 10% to about 20% by weight; and  
56 b) said stabilizer mix at about 0.2% to about 0.6% by weight.

57  
58 20. An article of manufacture for preparing a frozen beverage comprising:  
59 a) first frozen pellets comprising a milk fluid, a sweetener, a flavoring, and a  
60 stabilizer mix, wherein said milk fluid is about 25% to about 78% by weight of said  
61 first frozen pellets; and

b) second frozen pellets comprising a milk fluid, a sweetener, and a stabilizer mix, wherein said milk fluid is about 60% to about 85% by weight of said second frozen pellets;

said first frozen pellets present in an amount of about 60% to about 70% by weight of the amount of said second frozen pellets.

21. The article of claim 20, wherein article contains an amount of said first and said second frozen pellets sufficient to produce a single serving of said frozen beverage.

22. The article of claim 20, wherein said article contains an amount of said first and said second component sufficient to produce multiple servings of said frozen beverage.

23. A method for making a frozen beverage comprising:

a) providing first frozen pellets comprising a milk fluid, a sweetener, a flavoring, and a stabilizer mix, wherein said milk fluid is about 25% to about 78% by weight of said first frozen pellets;

b) providing second frozen pellets comprising a milk fluid, a sweetener, and a stabilizer mix, wherein said milk fluid is about 60% to about 85% by weight of said second frozen pellets;

c) providing a liquid; and

d) mixing said first frozen pellets, said second frozen pellets, and said liquid for a time sufficient to result in a substantially homogeneous frozen beverage.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein said first and second frozen pellets are, independently, pellets of relatively uniform shape and size.

25. The method of claim 24, wherein said liquid is selected from the group consisting of water, milk, skim milk, 1% milk, 2% milk, heavy cream, light cream, half and half, soy milk, juice, yogurt juice, and mixtures thereof.

93 26. The method of claim 23, wherein said mixing is achieved by manual or mechanical  
94 mixing, stirring, and shaking.

95  
96 27. The method of claim 23, wherein said first frozen pellets are provided at about 60%  
97 to about 70% by weight of said second frozen pellets.

98  
99 28. The method of claim 23, wherein said liquid is provided in an amount of about 50%  
100 to about 150% by weight of the combined weight of said first and second frozen pellets.

101  
102 29. The method of claim 23, wherein said mixing occurs for a time from about 10  
103 seconds to about 2 minutes.

104  
105 30. The method of claim 23, further comprising providing flavoring particulates selected  
106 from the group consisting of fruit and confections prior to said mixing.

107  
108 31. An article of manufacture for preparing a frozen beverage comprising first frozen  
109 pellets, said first frozen pellets comprising a milk fluid, a sweetener, a flavoring, and a  
110 stabilizer mix, wherein said milk fluid is about 25% to about 78% by weight of said first  
111 frozen pellets.

112  
113 32. The article of claim 31, wherein said first frozen pellets further comprise a cream  
114 fluid.

115  
116 33. The article of claim 32, wherein the combined amount of said cream fluid and said  
117 milk fluid is from about 62% to about 90% by weight of said first frozen pellets.

118  
119 34. The article of claim 33, wherein the combined amount of said cream fluid and said  
120 milk fluid is from about 80% to about 87% by weight of said first frozen pellets.

121  
122 35. The article of claim 31, wherein said first frozen pellets comprise:

123 a) said sweetener at about 10% to about 25% by weight; and

124           b) said stabilizer mix at about 0.15% to about 2% by weight.

125

126       36.     An article of manufacture comprising a container for preparing a frozen beverage,  
127     said container having therein first frozen pellets comprising a milk fluid, a sweetener, a  
128     flavoring, and a stabilizer mix, wherein said milk fluid is about 25% to about 78% by weight  
129     of said first frozen pellets.

130

131       37.     The article of claim 36, further comprising an insulated carrier for said container.

132

133       38.     The article of claim 36, further comprising instructions for the preparation of said  
134     frozen beverage.

135

136       39.     A method of making frozen pellets for frozen beverage preparation comprising:

137           a) providing a sweetener component, said sweetener component comprising a  
138     sweetener and a stabilizer mix;

139           b) providing a fluid component, said fluid component comprising a milk fluid;

140           c) mixing said sweetener component and said fluid component; and

141           d) forming frozen pellets from said mixture of step c).

142

143       40.     The method of claim 39, wherein said fluid component further comprises a cream  
144     fluid.

145

146       41.     The method of claim 39, further comprising providing a flavoring and mixing said  
147     flavoring with said mixture of step c).

148

149       42.     The method of claim 39, wherein said sweetener component further comprises a  
150     flavoring.

151

152       43.     The method of claim 39, further comprising packaging said frozen pellets in a  
153     container.

154

155 44. An article of manufacture for preparing frozen pellets comprising:

156 a) a sweetener component, said sweetener component comprising a sweetener and a  
157 stabilizer mix; and

158 b) instructions for the preparation of said frozen pellets, said instructions indicating  
159 that frozen pellets can be prepared by:

160 i) mixing said sweetener component with a fluid component to form a  
161 mixture, said fluid component comprising a milk fluid; and

162 ii) forming said frozen pellets from said mixture.

163  
164 45. The article of manufacture of claim 44, wherein said fluid component further  
165 comprises a cream fluid.

166  
167 46. The article of manufacture of claim 44, said instructions further indicating that a  
168 flavoring can be added to said mixture of said sweetener component and said fluid  
169 component.

170  
171 47. The article of manufacture of claim 44, wherein said sweetener component comprises  
172 a flavoring.

173  
174 48. The article of manufacture of claim 44, said instructions further indicating that said  
175 frozen pellets can be packaged in a container.